

**Notes of 10/12/09 Meeting  
Marshfield Energy and Climate Change Committee**

**Attending:** Debra Stoleroff, Lawrence Black, Ed Hutchinson, Rich Phillips, John Morris, Anne Miller, Bob Atchinson, & Saul Gresser

**Convene:** 6:36 PM

**Business:**

**1) Weatherization/ Button-up Workshop:**

Rich handed out the Button-up Workshop To Do List

- No one has volunteered to bring food. Rich will ask Kass and Beck for their help.
- Debra has arranged with the Twinfield Kitchen Staff for use of the coffee pot.
- Rich will shop for cider, half & half, and veggies for snacks. Debra will pick up cups.
- Ed agreed to sell the EV DVD video at the registration table. Debra agreed to do sign-up: phone #s, e-mail addresses, information re: willingness to help with the energy committee.
- Rich will email the agendas to Debra. Debra will make 20 copies and leave them on the stage of the cafeteria for Rich to retrieve on the day of the Workshop, Weds. Kass will print agendas to post around town.
- Discussion re: how to best determine and keep track of those who actually go through with an energy audit on their homes as a result of attending this workshop. Further, how to determine who actually follows through with the energy renovations recommended as a result of an audit. Still an open question. Rich will make sure to directly ask those in attendance how many will go ahead with an audit. Also, the various funds and rebates available to homeowners for having audits and energy renovations completed need to be better advertised. For instance, EV is offering coupons of \$150.00 off an audit to anyone who completes the workshop. These will be available at the workshop. Also GMP has various incentives available to help pay for audits and other energy related improvements. The impression is that Paul Zabriskie will be covering the incentives available as part of the workshop. Some brainstorming followed re: how best to further motivate actual improvements being made. One suggestion was to hand out EV's DVD to anyone who has a question during the workshop. No final agreement.
- A suggestion was made to be sure to mention the upcoming town meeting votes on the Route 2 bus route initiative and also to ask attendees of any other energy projects they think the energy committee ought to be working on.
- Kill-a-watt meters: Ed will review the meter loan forms that John has been adapting. If necessary, John will further modify forms after Ed completes his review. Lawrence and Ed agreed to bring meters to be displayed at the workshop. Folks will be encouraged to contact Ed or Lawrence outside of the meeting to borrow meters. If John attends the workshop, he could perhaps create a sign-up link from our webpage for those who want to borrow the meters and have this available during the Button-up workshop.

**2) General Discussion/Next Steps**

The discussion moved to a general discussion of what can be done to further motivate folks. The highlighted items are to be further considered by committee members for prioritization and action at our next meeting.

- Should we focus on **providing more direct help (hands-on) to homeowners** with weatherization? Such as a **volunteer weatherization team** or teams...
- Bob mentioned that he has put together a packet of new homebuilders information for the Plainfield **Zoning Administrator that focuses on energy efficiency design and improvement** measures. This will be used to inform future home building and development in town. Rich will take a look at what Bob has put together and work with Bob Light to mimic this information for Marshfield. Does the committee want to focus on this item? Now, later? How?
- Lawrence mentioned the Covenant Church in town is interested in obtaining a copy of the EV home weatherization DVD to share with their parishioners.

- Bill Powell of Washington Electric will be distributing the same DVD to co-op members in Cabot and Chelsea at public events over the next few weeks.
  - There was a mention of energy audits being completed and/or needing to be completed for the town buildings in Plainfield.
  - **Website designs and access: What can be done to better use and promote our website?** Plainfield is working on a town energy page on the town website which will have links to VCANN and a link to the Marshfield energy committee website.
  - **The creation of a “Clean Energy Assessment District”** is being considered at the statewide level. How could or do we want to involve Marshfield in this designation. What would this mean for us?
  - Do we want to **host an off-the-grid workshop?**
  - What about the development of a **Coop for bulk purchasing of home weatherization and energy improvement tools and materials?** Should the energy committee focus on this item next? In the future?
  - East Montpelier has been successful in **creating neighborhood energy groups** to help neighbors-in-need deal with energy related home improvement issues. We have talked about doing something similar in Marshfield. Where does this fall in our priority list?
  - **CEDF Municipal Technical Assistance Program Grant:** see below under Updates.
- Committee members are encouraged to go home, review the above highlighted items and create a priority list to share at our next meeting.

### 3) Grant Updates:

- **Transportation Grant:** Rich said that the RT 2 AOT grant had not yet been authorized. There appears to be more competition for the money than originally anticipated. He will keep us posted. Anne suggested that before town meeting day we update townspeople with phone calls regarding the grant so that they can make an informed vote at the meeting.
- **OSC weatherization work:** Thanks to all the volunteers so far. More work continues. Foam board and sheetrock installation will commence on Monday, the 19<sup>th</sup> and continue Thursday, the 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 6-9 pm, for those interested in volunteering. The cellulose will be blown in on the 31<sup>st</sup>, Saturday, starting at 8am. Again, volunteers are welcome, needed, and encouraged.
- **CEDF Municipal Technical Assistance Program Grant:** The grant as submitted was rejected. Rich suggested we develop an RFP that requires each bidder to provide all the information and support we would have received under the grant work plan (except the integration into the curriculum). Then we could compare the submissions and select the installer. The contract with the installer would be conditioned on funding becoming available. Michael Horowitz could perhaps review the proposals for the \$500.00 that the town was going to contribute as the local match from the original proposal. More work needed here. What would the committee like to do in this regard?

### 4) Announcements:

Renewable Energy Vermont Conference is scheduled for the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> in Burlington at the Sheraton Hotel. The 28<sup>th</sup> is from noon-7pm and costs 10\$ per person. Lots of great information and access to huge array of alternative energy installers, suppliers, financiers, and builders. The 29<sup>th</sup> is a conference with extensive workshops and plenary sessions for REV members and nonmembers alike. The cost is much greater, but worth it if you have the time and money. Check out the REV website for more information.

**Next meeting: November 9th, 6:30, OSC.**

**Meeting adjourned approximately 8:05 pm.**

Respectfully Submitted, Saul Gresser